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[Approved 08-14-06]

Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

November 29, 2005

St. Mary's 113 B; 1:30 PM

Present: J. Biddle, D. Biers, P. Eloë, S. Hileman, J. O'Gorman, R. Penno, J. Rapp, J. Saliba, T. Thompson

Guests: Dan Sadlier, Board of Trustees

Joe Saliba gave the opening prayer.

Minutes: The minutes of November 22 were reviewed and approved as written.

Old Business

Revision of the Background check – ECAS has had an opportunity to review the newly revised background check document. President Biers requested feedback from the committee and noted that the Faculty Affairs Committee is reviewing the document as well. The Committee suggests that Legal Affairs be given an opportunity to review the document and that the document explicitly state when the background check will be done. Also, the Committee recommends that the statement regarding “additional background check such as degree verification and professional and personal references” be stricken from the document. The committee recommends that the results of the background check be vetted through the Provost's Office and not Human Resources and that this be made clear in the document. Senator Penno to take the information discussed in ECAS back to the FACAS for continued discussion.

New Business

1. **Evaluation of President Curran:** D. Biers welcomed Mr. Sadlier, president of the UD BOT to discuss the process which the Board will follow in the evaluation of President Curran for contract renewal. The contract expires June 30, 2007. It is the responsibility of the Board to do an evaluation. They will be seeking input from the faculty, staff, and students. Sadlier shared with the committee the process under which the Board is currently involved in preparation of the contract renewal. A consultant has been retained to help. The Board is keenly interested in finding out what ECAS thoughts are regarding the proposed process.

Mr. Sadlier asked the ECAS get their written feed back to him by February. ECAS will provide a copy of the President's position description to members of the Senate to aid in the discussion of President Curran's . Mr. Sadlier agreed that the evaluation will be both developmental and administrative.

2. **Withdrawal Period** : D. Biers brought to the Committee a concern raised by Professor Laura Yungblut regarding the current statement of the withdrawal policy. The vagueness of the current statement allows reckless abandonment of classes in the final weeks of school. In

particular the statement “change in career objectives” seems counterproductive to learning. ECAS referred the issue to APCAS and also recommends that they reexamine the withdrawal policy which seems not to have been changed since the 1960s.

3. **Student Academic Policies Committee**: S. Hileman presented the latest draft document of “an Honors Pledge” drafted by SAPAS. The revised process proposes to make the policy more visible to students, provide a consistent reminder of why students should be honest, and better disseminate the University-wide academic dishonesty policy. He asked ECAS members to review the document and share their comments. D. Biers asked the members to look over the document and come to the next meeting with any recommendations/discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 PM.

Minutes prepared by Kathleen Henderson and Edited by Patricia Johnson, July 2006